

US Patent Application No: 09/997,137
Art Unit 2151
Page 2

REMARKS

1. Claims 1-6 and 10-13 are pending in the present application.
2. In the Action, the Examiner rejects claims 1 and 5 under 35 USC 103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Pat. No. 6,421,711 to Blumenau in view of U.S. Pat. No. 5,872,968 to Knox and further in view of U.S. Pat. No. 5,659,801 to Kopsaftis. The Applicants respectfully disagree.

Claim 1 recites *"a transforming device . . . receiv[ing] a hard disk access command from [a] diskless client and pack[ing] the hard disk access command and an identity number relative to the diskless client into a package."* The Examiner acknowledges that Blumenau does not disclose such feature. According to the Examiner, such feature is disclosed in Knox, at column 4, lines 9-17 and 30-43. In particular, the Examiner is of the opinion that Knox implicitly teaches receiving an access command and packing it with an identifier into a packet. The Applicants respectfully disagree.

As already explained by Applicants in the previous response filed on July 15, 2005, lines 9-17 and 30-43 at column 4 of Knox disclose network protocols for communications between computers. In particular, Knox discloses a bootrequest command in the BOOTP protocol (column 4, lines 30-43) or an RPL request code in the RPL protocol (column 4, lines 9-17). Where is a *"hard disk access command"* disclosed in Knox? Further, the Examiner also alleges that Knox implicitly teaches receiving an access command and packing it